A RARE OLD HOUSE.

The Benson Homestead at Bensonhurst, Long Island.

[Special Correspondence,1 BROOKLYN, Sept. 22 .- The Benson home stead at Bensonhurst is one of the historical places on Long Island.

Here have lived several generations of Bensons, Robert Benson, the last of his race, dying at the old home about five years ago. The house is now owned by Mr. W. E. Parfitt, of Brooklyn, and occupled by him as a summer hor

One Harry Benson, over a century ago, played a prominent part in many of the conflicts with his country's foe, and his daring won for him the title of Fighting

This same Fighting Harry was one of the brave boys who, in their endeavor to prevent the British from ascending the Hudson, stretched a huge chain of iron across the river in hopes of so impeding

It is a singular fact that a house so long occupied should have had but one bride to go forth from its doors, and that but in recent years. The wedding of Miss Margaret Benson was the only one in whose honor the house has been made gay in all these generations. Yet it has been the scene of many gala days, when men of renown have gathered beneath its roof. Daniel Webster and Henry Clay have at various times partaken of the steaming products of its old Dutch oven, and the story is told that shortly after his inauguration as president of the United States dinner given in his honor by Mr. Renson. at this point was a famous place for shad fishing, and after dinner the host with his guests walked over to the shore, where they watched the fishers for a time,



after which they went to the public hall, where the children of the village had gathered to see the illustrious visitor. The little ones were drawn up in line, each arrayed

in the cleanest of frocks and pinafores.

During the inspection Washington placed his hand upon the head of one of the boys, Rem Van Pelt by name, and bade him be "a good, industrious youth."
It was in this house that Mrs. Murtha

Leamb spent much of her time while en-gaged upon the "History of New York." Over the front door, through which guests were wont to enter, there used to hang an old greeting upon a ground of blue, bearing the Dutch motto "Welkom," and those who passed beneath it had no occasion, it is said, to ever doubt the principle for which it stood.

In the house there still remain two mas-

sive mahogany tables and two ancient chests of drawers of the same wood. These were brought from Holland.

On the landing of the stairway there hangs an old picture, upon which is the name "Dominus Micarlaus Vander Borcht, 1703," and again there are two old prints in colors, one of New York, looking from Brooklyn Heights, and the other the same from New Jersey. No date is given, but New York is shown as a very small settle-

Two other marks of antiquity are shown In this house-the chains in the cellar, used for punishing refractory siaves, and the old millstone in the back yard. It is half hidden by the overgrowing grass and worn smooth by the treading of many feet. It is supposed to be the first millstone ever brought to this country.

In the natural course of things most of the furniture which once adorned the old me has been scattered. The New York Historical society posse furniture, documents and papers which tell of the lives and doings of the dwellers in the old house who have passed away. To the society they are doubly valuable both for their antiquity and for the fact that one of the founders of that institution was Egbert Benson, who for so many years made the home his home.

FRANCES SMITH.

The "Hobo" Club.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 27 .- "What is a 'Hobo!'" I asked this question the other day of a reporter for a daily paper up on Puget sound. I had just read in the local columns of the paper about a clergyman having taken upon himself to score the city authorities of the place for what he alled the inhuman treatment of a poor Hebo. I supposed a "Hobo" was perhaps the last remnant of some depleted tribe of Indians; or perchance it was some species of dumb brute which was being abused. In reply to my question the reporter said, "A Hobo is a tough." He then explained that not very long ago a ciub was organized in one of the cities of California whose object was to promote the pleasure of its members, and the name of the club was "The

The Hobos might have lived long and The billside had double rows of abatis, prospered without attracting more than local notice to their odd name, but they did either. They soon disbanded, but their name as a heritage to a disreputable class of people, and the word, like many others of local or accidental origin, is des tined to take its piece in the vocabulary of the English speaking people. It is now, it seems, thoroughly naturalized through out the Pacific slope. The Hobo club went to a neighboring town on a Sunday excursion. The members imbibed somewhat too freely and became hilariously noisy. The town marshal called an impromptu meeting of the club at the town jail, and with his club secured a full attendance of all the members of the Hobos. This meeting was reported rather fully in the press dispatches, and so much attention attracted to the membership that the boys paid their fines, solvered up, went home, and dishanded as a corporate body. But the name stuck, and has been adopted on the coast to signify a drunkard and tough character generally. B. G. W.

Working for Four-Cents a Day

BILENCING A SENTINEL. It is astonishing on how little one may passed them and pressed on. Only a rush live in some quarters of the globe and yet now could win the day. not know want. An East Indian, 40 years columns on opposite siges of the hill moved old, being examined recently before a magwith unusual unanimity. They cut away obstructions before the ditch and the saily Istrate at Bangalore, stated that he carned daily a quarter of an anna-between three orts and mounted the parapets beyonet and four cents-by bottling ginger beer, and that he was quite satisfied with his

Wayne was struck outside by a ball hitting him on the hend. He fell, and be-lieving that the hurt was mortal Frez-"March on! Carry me into the fort, for I will die at the head of my col Two aids raised him, and carried

him into the work just as the two columns met on the parade. Loud huzzaks signalized the victory. which, however, had not been won so easily as it is told. Not a musket was fired by the Americans, yet they literally fough their way in. Lieut, Gibbon lost seventeen killed and wounded out of his little foriern party of twenty. Col. De Fleury entered the work first and struck the British flag A Maj. Posey mounted the rampart at the same instant, calling out amid the barri din the alguideant British watchword

WAYNE AT STONY POINT, the night, the one used by the negro, "The ort's our own!

INGTON'S BOLD PLAN.

[Copyright by American Press Association.]

firm and courage-

Finds Wayne in Possession.

-

the night of July 15, 1779.

Washington might have won all mankind over to the view expressed by Frederick

the capture of Steny Point, on the Hudson,

The year was one of great trial for the

patriots. Provost was ravaging South arclina with his Indians and Tory allies;

Mathews was raiding southeast Virginia, laying waste to whole counties, and Gov-ernor Tryon, of New York and Connecti-

cut, leisurely rocked in an easy chair while

the towns of the revolutionists melted away before the British torch. Washing-

ton's army lay at the Highlands, weak in

cabals at the seat of government, and only able to keep up communications with dis-

tant sections, without attempting grand

Sir Henry Clinton moved up the Hudson, and seized and fortified Stony Point as a

measure to cut New England off from the

niddle and southern colonies. The position was a high bluff or promontory, sur-

rounded by water at times, and in dry

times connected with the mainland by a

narrow canseway over a swamp. It was

well equipped by Clinton and manned with 600 men, enough on level ground to with-

stand 3,000, but in such a fortress presum-

ably able to keep at bay all that could be

make the attempt, counting on boldness rather than numbers. He chose for leader

"Mad" Anthony Wayne, whose deeds at the Brandywine and Monmouth were an

earnest of the stuff that was in him. When

told that he had been selected to storm the

to his chief, "I will storm hell if you will only plan it." strongest fortress in America be declared

place was but forty-two miles from Clin-

ton's base at New York, and the Hudson

ment against Stony Point. Wayne had

1,200 men, and the day before the attack, which was to be at night, he was at Sandy

Beach, fourteen miles from the fort. The

intervening distance was over rocks,

ged with fallen trees. The column moved

n Indian file, and after a tedious march,

ill fitting for the eye of such an undertakng, it arrived before dark within a mile

and a half of the scene. At this stage

stratagem must come in, for an open attack

on the fortress before them would be fool-

reconneitered, and they found a negro who

whom it was essential to silence before at-

tempting the difficult passage. The negro,

garb, approached these one after the other,

empanied by two soldiers in farmer's

The Americans did not answer, but

relied on the bayenet when the time came. "To arms! To arms!" sounded in the fort,

to clear away entirely. The troops quickly

Wayne and his officers personally

ugh swamps and through forest clog-

was open to him to send up re-enforce

ent caution was necessary, for the

in case he should suspect a move

ought against them. But Washington, ak as he was in men, determined to

men and resources and hampered by the

In the first stroke the Americans were BRILLIANT SUCCESS OF GEN. WASHwarned against attacking their own men -for it was pitch dark-by pieces of white cloth sewed in their hats for badges. The garrison surrendered, and not a life Storming the British Fortress at Night-A taken after quarter was asked. clemency was not always accorded by the Wonderful March-Keen Stratagem to British when places were atormed, especially by the foreign mercenaries of that army. Several British vessels lying in the Outwit the Outer Sentinels-Daylight harbor were not included in the surren-der, but on the alarm of attack quietly HE military gen-ius and daring of slipped their cables and dropped down the river. Daylight found the Americans in Washington as full possession, and the commander-in-displayed in the chief was apprised of the success of his revolution de not fentitle him to rank masterly and daring plan by a note from Wayne, which read:

with the great gen-Scent Point 18th July 1778. 2 O'clock a.m.
Duan Gre't.—The fort & Garrison with Col.
Johnston are ours. Our officers & men behaved erals of the world. His fame rests rather upon his character for cool-ness and hopeful-ness in the darkest like men who are determined to be free. Yours nost sincerely. Gen'l Washington.

ness in the darkest In this exploit, which has been called the hours, his exalted most brilliant in the revolutionary war, patriotism and his Wayne's loss was fifteen killed and eighty three wounded. This was remarkably ons bearing in the small, but the darkness and the firing over field and in coun-Nevertheless there were campaigns heads, which favors the assailants in mounting heights, rather than the weakand battles that showed the highest capacity, and suggest that with ample re-sources and a chance to force the fighting, ness of the opposition, account for this.

The British reported twenty killed, but the Americans accounted for sixty-three of the enemy's dead and 643 prisoners, includthe Great, who called him the "greatest general in the world." One such affair was ing the commander.

The rewards for this daring piece of work show the estimation in which it was held by the country. Congress ordered a gold medal for Wayne and silver medals for the division leaders, De Fleury and Stewart. Lieuts. Gibbon and Knox, leaders of the forlorn parties, each received the brevet of captain. On the recommendation of Washington and Wayne the value of the military stores captured were divided among the officers and men who took part in the capture. The sum total was \$158,640. The first man to enter the British works re-ceived \$500, the second, \$400; the third, \$300; the fourth, \$200, and the fifth, \$100. Gen. Wayne, whose success in this has-

ardous explait justified the high confidence Washington had in him, was lifted at once inence. He was a volunteer. home was Pennsylvania, and at the time of sterming Stony Point he was 34 years



SCALING THE HEIGHTS. old. Before the was he was a surveyor and held some colonial office. He was a colonel in the army of Geo. Thomas in the expedition to Canada in 1775-76, and won a briga-dier's commission. He next served with Washington at Brandywine and German-town, 1777, and at Monmouth, 1778. At the Brandywine he was charged with the de-fense of Chodd's Ford, which he accomplished. At Germantown he fought well and drove the enemy, and at Monmouth distinguished himself in brilliant manosu After Stony Point be went south vers. with the Pennsylvania troops, was with Lafayette in Virginia, and later conducted had the privilege of entering the fort at the war in Georgia. After the war he served night with the password to sell fruit and in councils, and in 1793 succeeded Gen. St. other delicacies. It was decided to make Clair in the war against western Indians. other delicacies. It was decided to make Clair in the war against western Indians, use of him to silence the outer sentinels, so His victory over the powerful Miamis and that the garrison should not be got under arms before the attack was under way. He died in 1796, and his remains lie in Dela-

The storming column was divided into two parties, right and left, and each was preceded by a body of picked men with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets. Lieut Col. De Fleuryled one advance body is, there is fighting always. That is his and Maj. Stewart the other. These were business." preceded by foriorn hopes of twenty men Among the good words brought out by each, under Licuts Gibbon and Knox. The the Stony Point victory were these. Gen. preceded by foriern bopes of twenty men latter were to remove all abatis and ob-structions, including guards and sentinels. san, wrote: "I do most seriously declare The main divisions were headed by Wayne | that your assault of Stony Point is not and Coi. Butler. Wayne had two regionly the most brilliant, in my opinion, ments, Febriger's and Meigs', and Butler throughout the whole course of the war his own regiment, with two companies un- on either side, but that it is the most brillter Maj. Murfey.

The wide morses and causeway behind assault of Schweidnitz by Marshal Landon

I think inferior to it."

The celebrated Dr. Rush wrote from the point were guarded by two sentinels, Philadelphia: "Our streets rang for many days with nothing but the name of Gen. Wayne. You are remembered constantly, gave the countersign and drew near. The next to our good and great Washington, farmer looking men seized the Britons and over our claret and Madeira. You have promptly gagged them to stille any out-cry. The whole command of Wayne now country; you have taught our enemies that crossed the morass, and at 11:30 began the steep ascent. All the dogs of the neighbor the native virtues of the Americans." Of hood had been killed during the evening to prevent any outery, but in some way the Fleury was a French nobleman and a sentries on the hill took alarm and opened | trained military engineer. For gallantry at the Brandywine congress gave him a horse. The medal presented him for Stony Point here the inscription, "The American and in a few seconds a volley of musket republic has bestowed (this medal) on Col. shots and grape swept down the incline D. de Fleury, a native of France, the first D. de Fleury, a native of France, the first over the walls." Maj. Stewart was killed during the war at Charleston, S. C., by a fall from his horse. Lieut, James Gibbon who led one forlorn hope, served through

the war and became a major.

Even the negro who played such an important part came in for a reward. He was a slave belonging to a Captain Lamb, and his master presented him a horse and exempted him from all labor as a reward for his services to Wayne in that doubly daring expedition against the fortress of Stony Point. GEORGE L. KILMER.

She Was Modest.

"That new girl of yours is rather a shrinking, modest creature, Scadley, isn't 'Well, I should say she was. I didn't visit her more'n a week before she aug-gested that I turn down the light in order

Go West. Mother-Now that you have become a chiropodist, where are you going to settle? Ambitious Youth-I think, mother, I'll go to Nebraska. All the papers say that is a great corn state.—Street & Smith's Good

that she might hide her blushes."-- Phila-

delphia Times

Neither Can Any One Else. Mrs. Cumso-Misfortunes do not come

singly Cumso-Well, I don't understand what they can possibly see in each other that they should marry.—New York Herald.

Enough to Tire It.

"I am sorry you have to work so hard," he cried. "Your voke sounded very tired when you called to me up stairs." "Oh, you know it had to go up three flights to reach you, dear."-Light,

Nipping Him in the Bud. "Had a splendid time. I ran across a lake up in"-"Ran across a lake! Come, come, Hinks,

don't lie so transparently." - New York Children Cry for Pitcher's Castoria. Strief at Baving

the proverb ran-The pan says to

the pot. Keep off or you'll smutch me If your grocer sends you anything in place of SAPOLIO, send it back and insist upon having just what you ordered. SAPOLIO always gives satisfaction. On floors, tables and painted work it acts like a charm. For scouring pots, pans and metals it has no equal. Everything shines after it, and even the chil-

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Facts About Worms.

"Worms are very interesting animals,"

emarked a friend who has given some at-

Worms feed on earth, filling themselves

with a generous supply thereof, for the

sake of the nutritive particles contained

therein. The common belief is that if you

cut a worm in two the separate parts wil

grow into worms. This is not strictly true.
Worms are propagated from eggs. To cut
a worm in two means that the hinder seg-

in pools and creeks? The boys call them worms and snakes. What are they in real-

worms. The round worm is a remarkable animal. It begins life as a larva in mud or in a water pool. When well developed it becomes squatic. It multiplies very rapid-

ly, so rapidly in fact that many people say 'it rained worms.' If you cut one of these

wiggling worms into a dozen parts the probability is that each separate part will

The Lawyer Said Nothing More.

A very funny thing occurred in the may-

or's court recently. A case was called in

which the prisozer had been bailed. An atterney arose and said: "Your honor, my

client is not here. It is doubtful whether he will be here. He was most brutally as-

saulted and beaten by an officer, and he may now be dying. He is on his bed sur-

rounded by his friends, who are in tears, watching and praying that his life may be

spared—an event of grave doubt." Just at that moment the door of the court room

opened, and a man entered. A hum ran over the crowd, while "There he is, there

he is," could be heard on every side. It was the prisoner, who looked not a whit as

if he were about to die. The attorney turned, looked at him, grunted and sat

down without a word, while the crowd

roared with laughter. - Columbus Dis

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tention to the subject.

when we were boys?"

dren delight in using it in their attempts to help around the house.

SCIENTIFIC SQUIBS.

At Montichiari batteries of artillery sing smokeless powder kept up a fire for half an hour without their position being

A compound propeller blade, consisting of a sheathing of bronze and delta metal cast on a steel core, has recently been patented in England.

An English inventor offers a system by which coul gas compressed to one-eighth its natural bulk can be carried about and utilized as an illuminant when desired. Printing can be copied on any paper of an absorbent nature by moistening the surface of the latter with a weak solution

of acetate of iron, and using an ordinary copying press. The balloon proposed for polar exploraons is 99 feet in diameter and 500,000 cubic feet in volume. The journey is to be begun from Spitzbergen, and with a favora-

ble wind is expected to last four or five

A remedy for cholers has been discovered by a Frenchman from Cette. People either attacked by or in fear of the disease must sit for some hours in a garment soaked in paraffin, which irritates the skin, producing a healthy reaction, and kills the cholera

In a discussion that has lately been car ried on in Europe as to the distance at which large objects on the earth's surface are visible, it was stated that the Himalaya mountains have appeared to view from the great distance of 224 miles and Mont Blanc

The sanitary aspects of electric lighting were discussed before the English sanitary congress, and it appears that the electric light is better than all other sources of illumination, because it is not dependent upon the exhaustion of hydrogen, resulting n the vitiation of the air.

The telephone has played an important part in the maneuvers of the Swedish fleet. There is a telephonic post on board each vessel, and when lying at anchor they can telephone to one another by means of insulated conductors, which are run down the anchor chains and submerged.

It has been computed, as an illustration of the great cheapening of ocean freights which has taken place in recent years, that half a sheet of note paper will develop sufficient power, when burned in connection with the triple expansion engine, to carry a ton a mile in an Atlantic steam

RAILWAY BREVITIES.

It is estimated that 10,000 miles of nev track will be laid in this country in 1890. The roads in the Transmissouri associa tion have decided not to remove their head quarters from Kansas City to Chicago.

On week days 225 trains arrive and 225 depart from the Broad Street station of the Pennsylvania railroad in Philadelphia. A party of railroad engineers from France have been touring America to ge "pointers" on the method of operating

The New York Central expects within two years to have its entire freight equipment fitted with automatic couplers and The rate of mortality in England for the

year 1888 was one passenger killed in 6.942. 336 and one passenger injured for every 220,024 carried.

Snow was being shoveled out of the Al pine tunnel in August on the Union Pacific, for the purpose of getting out about fifty cars that were snowed in during the winter of 1889-90.

The Oregon Improvement company's railroad-the Olympia and Tenino-has been made standard gauge and opened for traffic. The company has some 500 men engaged in construction work. An official of the Pennsylvania company

states that 75 per cent. of the wrecks of freight trains on that system are the results of overloading cars. It seems impossible to prevent shippers overloading cars at points where there are no scales. The Southern Pacific company has accepted the offer of a subsidy of \$315,000 and the right of way to complete a coast line

of railway between Santa Margarita and Ellwood, Cal., thus making a continuous line from San Francisco to Los Angeles. A locomotive notable for its high degree of ornamentation has just been placed on the Geneva and Sayre branch of the Lehigh Valley railroad. The engineer's cab is con-structed in Queen Anne style, with stained glass windows. The cozy interior is deco-rated with French clocks and steel engrav-

WEALTHY WOMEN.

ings. The metal work is nickel plated.

Mrs. Robert Goelet and Mrs. Jaye pay taxes on \$3,000,000 apiece. Mrs. John Jacob Aster's wealth foots up the sum total of \$5,000,000.

Miss Hetty Green, of New York, is credfted with a fortune of \$40,000,000 in her own right. Mrs. Edwin Stevens enjoys the incom-

which accrues to her from her fortune of \$15,000,000. Mrs. John C. Green has a fortune of \$10,-

000,000, as has also Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormack, of Chicago. Mrs. John Ray Barton, of Philadelphia, is possessed of a fortune which is slightly

in excess of \$7,000,000. Mrs. Ferry, Mrs. Mark Hopkins and Miss Elizabeth Smith are each possessed of for-tunes which mount up to the \$20,000,000

Eastern and Foreign Exchange bought and sold. United States bonds of all denominations bought and sold County. Township and Municipal bonds bought. Mrs. Ferry's baby daughter, not over 8 years old, distances all competitors wealth in her own right valued at \$50,

mour, of Chicago, daughter of Silas Co

STRANGE DEATHS.

Siz Godfrey Kneller.

Lely died of jealousy at the success of

Elphinstone died of a broken heart over

Cheke, the great English scholar, died of

grief at having been perverted from his re-

the result of the battle of Flodden.

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which in reality are in the form of re-curved hooks. These hooks extend from ead to tail, and may be felt by pulling Office with Citizens Bank, cor. Main and Douglas, Wichita, Kan the worm backward through the fingers. "The mouth of a worm is placed in the second segment, near the apex of the body.

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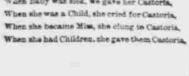
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